

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown below. Please cancel Claims 7 and 12 without prejudice. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an electronic message comprising ~~the steps of:~~:

- a) examining syntactic content of said electronic message;
- b) comparing said syntactic content to a first database for a first match;
- c) examining said addressed destination of said message to determine an identity of an intended addressee;
- d) comparing said identity of said intended addressee to a second database for a second match; and
- e) alerting said sender that said electronic message does not have an attachment, based on said first match and said second match: and
- f) automatically updating said first and said second databases, provided that said attachment is attached to said message.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said steps a) through b) versus said steps c) through d) may be performed, selectively, in any order, and simultaneously.

3. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first database comprises a list of specified terms indicating that an attachment is likely to be desirable.

4. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 3 wherein said specified terms correspond to a high frequency of appearance within electronic messages that have a high frequency of transmission with attachments.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 4 wherein said step b) further comprises ~~the step of~~ recognizing elements of said syntactic content wherein said elements comprise a plurality of syntactic terms.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 5 wherein said step b) comprises ~~the steps of:~~

c1) identifying certain terms of said plurality of syntactic terms that correspond to said specified terms;

c2) determining that any of said certain terms exist; and

c3) triggering said step e) accordingly according to said c2).

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second database comprises a list of specified addressees.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said specified addressees comprise a group of recipients of electronic mail messages[[],] and wherein said electronic messages are characterized by a high frequency of transmission with attachments.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 9, wherein said step c) further comprises ~~the step of~~ recognizing an address of said addressee,

wherein said address is an user identifier, a user name, a user email address, a user Universal Resource Locator, or a user alias.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 10, wherein said step d) further comprises ~~the steps of:~~:

- d1) identifying said address as a certain addressee, wherein said certain addressee corresponds to one of said specified addressees;
- d2) determining that any of said certain addressees exist; and
- d3) triggering said step e) accordingly according to said d2).

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said step e) comprises activation of an on-screen display, a tone, synthesized speech, a pop-up window, a drop-down flag, or a combination.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an electronic message comprising ~~the steps of:~~:

- a) examining content of said an electronic message for selected keywords therein, said selected keywords being of a first database of keywords associated with messages that frequently have attachments sent therewith;
- b) provided said electronic message does not already have an attachment associated therewith, alerting a user that said electronic message does not have an attachment associated therewith provided one of said selected keyword is located within said electronic message; and

c) provided said electronic message does have an attachment associated therewith, updating said first database based on said content of said electronic message.

15. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 14 wherein said electronic message comprises is an electronic mail message.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 14 wherein said step b) comprises ~~the step of~~ displaying a message on a computer display screen that said electronic message does not have an attachment associated therewith.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 14 further comprising ~~the steps of:~~:

d) examining a recipient of said an electronic message against selected identifications, said selected identifications being of a second database of identifications that are recipients of messages that frequently have attachments sent therewith;

e) provided said electronic message does not already have an attachment associated therewith, alerting a user that said electronic message does not have an attachment associated therewith provided one of said selected identifications is said recipient of said electronic message; and

f) provided said electronic message does have an attachment associated therewith, updating said second database based on said recipient of said electronic message.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an electronic message comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- a) examining a recipient of said an electronic message against selected identifications, said selected identifications being of a first database of identifications that are recipients of messages that frequently have attachments sent therewith;
- b) provided said electronic message does not already have an attachment associated therewith, alerting a user that said electronic message does not have an attachment associated therewith provided one of said selected identifications is said recipient of said electronic message; and
- c) provided said electronic message does have an attachment associated therewith, updating said first database based on said recipient of said electronic message.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 18 wherein said electronic message comprises is an electronic mail message.

20. (Currently Amended) A method as described in Claim 18 wherein said step b) comprises ~~the step of~~ displaying a message on a computer display screen that said electronic message does not have an attachment associated therewith.